

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN

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TRANSMISSION NOTICES, FIFTY CENTS FOR EIGHT LINES, EACH INSCRIPTION. FOR LARGER SPACE AND PERMANENT RATES, APPLY AS ABOVE.

Dr. Joseph A. Davis.

The last few months have become memorable to the people of Bloomfield by reason of the death of an unusual number of men who had attained the full measure of human life, and had spent all, or nearly all of it in Bloomfield.

A partial list indicates the names of John Hall, Chabrier Peloubet, Israel C. Ward, James H. Rundell, James L. Wharry, and to them must now be added the name of Dr. Joseph Austin Davis.

Each one of these men had, for years, held an influential place in the regard of their associates and friends, and some of them had been very active in all questions relating to the public interests of our town.

To Dr. Davis we are especially indebted for a degree of public spirit and devotion which is very uncommon, the influence of which is apparent in almost every improvement which has been secured in the last half century.

Dr. Davis began the practice of his profession in his native town nearly fifty years ago and continued in his profession until he was stricken down by the illness which terminated his life. Fifty years ago the township, which included Montclair or West Bloomfield as it was called, had a population of about two thousand persons; at the present time the combined population of these two townships is nearly fourteen thousand.

Dr. Davis grew and developed along with the town, or, to put it more accurately, he grew ahead of and in advance of the town. He foresaw the possibilities of the future and did his utmost to aid the advancement of Bloomfield and her people.

He was singularly fitted to accomplish such a work. He was a wise and sagacious physician, who supplemented his professional skill by the greatest industry and unselfish devotion. His own convenience was never consulted and his labors were continued as if night and day were all to one to him.

His disposition was extremely frank and kind and generous. Always cheerful and patient, it may well be doubted whether his presence or his medicines most benefited his patients.

In business affairs he was wise and prudent, and he became the trusted adviser and counsellor of the poor, as well as of the rich and prosperous. In his own transactions he was generous and honest to the last degree. His respect for the rights of others led him sometimes to sacrifice his own rights.

In his social relations he was universally beloved and respected; and he was a welcome and an honored guest, not only among his friends and neighbors, but also among his friends and acquaintances throughout the State. His own house was a center of generous and refined hospitality. He was greatly interested in the advancement of religion in our town, and the Old Church had no warmer friend than Dr. Davis. He gave liberally of his means for its support and served for many years as the President of its Board of Trustees. It is not surprising that such a man should have received the universal respect and affection of our people and have acquired an influence in local matters which is rarely equalled. His interest in town affairs and local improvement and growth continued until the day of his death. He was actively identified with every undertaking which was designed to benefit the town.

We have not space to enumerate the many channels in which his activity exhibited itself, for it branched forth in all directions.

The changed conditions incident to a large community render it very improbable that any other man will ever have the opportunity to be more useful to the village than Dr. Davis has been. His long life has been one of continued service and usefulness, and his memory will be cherished with affection in the homes in Bloomfield where he had been for so many years the trusted physician and the beloved friend.

The Cemetery.

Upon a beautiful hill near Belleville avenue, filled with stones and monuments beside which rest the remains of more than two generations of men, lies the Bloomfield Cemetery. The spot was selected with care, with wise provision for the future. Much labor has been spent in grading and adorning it. The precious remains of dear ones there lie entombed. It is a place to rejoice in, and to be proud of.

Yet changes must come. Beneath its sod lie buried most of those who designed its paths and roads, its walls and monuments and tombs. During the past year a former President and Treasurer have died and been laid at rest in the home of their own creation. That to which they seemed a large ground has already become small. Population has grown increasingly, and burials have correspondingly increased. Hemmed in on all sides there is now no room for expansion. Some lots yet remain to be sold; but they are few in number and for the most part undesirable.

The day is not far distant when new ground must be broken. It is a question whether the work ought not to be undertaken immediately.

For this purpose a large plot of ground away from the centre of population should be chosen sufficiently high and rolling to admit of thorough drainage, and of easy adaption to the plans of the landscape gardener.

Such a field might now be cheaply procured, graded, and adapted to its purpose. It would soon find its lots more desirable than those of the present Cemetery now completely within the village.

Expensive monuments, tombstones, and vaults would be built, because likely to remain unmolested for a long time to come.

We are aware that this is a work of philanthropy. The present cemetery has no surplus from its sale of lots. Every dollar collected from this source has been spent in grading roads, lots and paths. The income from this source and from the assessments for the care of lots, is scarcely sufficient to pay the cost of maintenance.

A money-making scheme is not proposed. The present Cemetery is a noble monument to the generous hearts and the willing hands which planned and executed its design.

For them there was no pay save the satisfaction of a good deed well done.

To the same philanthropy and public spirit the town of the future will be indebted for whatever in this line may be achieved. It is not too soon to consider where the future Cemetery shall be opened when the present one is no longer available.

Home Rule.

To the Citizen:

Mr. Gladstone has been defeated in the recent elections in Great Britain upon the issue of Home Rule for Ireland and some writers jump to the conclusion that his defeat is a refusal on the part of the people to accept the principle contended for. This to my mind is an error, and the defeat of Mr. Gladstone should be construed to mean nothing of the kind.

We do not need to go so far and they appear to us to be two. First, a distrust of Mr. Gladstone personally, caused by his sudden change from the extreme of his devotion to the extreme of home rule and his unexplained obstinacy in refusing to permit any modification of his bill.

Second, a feeling on the part of the people that Mr. Gladstone's bill was simply total separation in disguise and that total disruption was undesirable.

It seems to me clear that had the issue been between continuing the present state of things or governing the three kingdoms as a federation with local legislatures in each the verdict would have been for the federation.

And I am bound to say that fully as I

recognize and much as I deplore the misgovernment of Ireland in the past I believe that she would be worse off in a condition of total independence and that the true aim of all lovers of Ireland should be to achieve State and not National Sovereignty.

Samuel J. Tilden.

To the Citizen:

To speak no evil of the dead, is a rule, which in its Latin original is so well known, that I cannot presume you ignorant of it, but from your editorial of last week upon the late Mr. Tilden I must conclude that you have forgotten it, or consider it more honored in the breach than in the observance.

I know that in politics you are Republican, but party fealty certainly does not demand that you insult, *after his death*, a man who when living was esteemed so highly by many of your readers and who received the ballots of a majority of the voters of the United States for the Presidency ten years ago. All men have their faults, even that great man General Grant had his, but where did you find a Democratic sheet, pretending to be respectable, that paraded them when that leader of men had died?

Much as I like the general tenor, of your editorials, I consider that one indecent.

Mr. Tilden was a great man: none other could have filled the place he did.

Had he been less than great the work he undertook would have been left undone, and the reforms he accomplished been left unattempted.

Mr. Tilden was in the truest sense a patriot, and when in 1877 a word from him would have lit the flames of civil war, he preferred to surrender his rights and the highest office within the gift of man, rather than that a drop of blood should be shed to secure them.

The Cemetery.

Mr. Tilden was a generous man, and in addition to many acts of generosity performed in his lifetime, he has left his large fortune for the use of the people he served so well.

Surely, of such a man you might find some good to say, and if your remembrance of defects, suffered at his hands, was too fresh for that, respect for the feelings of your reader should have prevented you from raking together a mass of campaign slanders to heap upon his grave.

JUSTICE.

State Items.

Cortland L. Parker, of Perth Amboy, the Prohibition candidate for Congress in 1884, has been nominated again in the Third district.

The New Jersey Sunday School Association have arranged to hold its triennial convention at Morristown on November 10th and 11th.

The Hebrew colony at Carmel, Cumberland county, is both a financial and social success. Seventeen families are now living there, and two additional families of means will settle in the place this week.

Beverly's City Council has adopted an ordinance forbidding the sale of liquor in any quantity whatever in the city limits. This is intended to suppress establishments which are selling on Government license.

The Atlantic Dynamite Company, of McCainsville, Morris county, has decided to pension all the widows, whose husbands were killed at the recent explosion of the works. One woman with three children will receive \$25 per month.

The joint committee of the Belleville Free Bridge Freeholders have arranged for the repairing of the draw of the bridge by the substitution of a new steel track for the old one. The work will be done by the Passaic Rolling Mill Company, and travel will probably be suspended over the bridge during that time, of which due notice will be given.

The Delaware Rolling Mills at Phillipsburg shut down on Saturday for an indefinite period. The proprietors state that they were compelled to take this course to keep from losing money. Some time ago their hands struck and were granted an advance of ten per cent. The firm can no longer afford to pay the advance, and as the men would not work at reduced rates, the mills were closed.

The grape growers of Southern New Jersey claim that this year's yield will be almost entirely destroyed by black rot, a dreaded scourge, caused by wet weather. In the low-lands and in the timber country the devastation has been most severe. In the vicinity of Egg Harbor City, the greatest wine-producing district in the Middle States, the loss will be about \$50,000, mostly among wine grapes.

There died in the Atlantic county Almshouse, at Smith's Landing, on last Saturday, an eccentric character who had been an inmate for thirty-four years. He was known as Henry, the Russian, but in all the thirty-four years he refused to disclose his real name. In the Winter of 1852, when the snow was quite deep, he was discovered walking in front of the almshouse in his bare feet, with his boots strung over his shoulder. Being taken into the institution he ever afterwards refused to leave it. He was about sixty years of age.

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